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November 3, 2011

Public Service Commission of South Carolina

P.O. Box 11649

Columbia, S.C. 29211

Gentlemen:

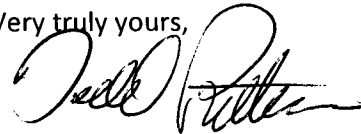
I am writing to ask that your Commission deny the **17%** rate increase request by Duke Energy that you have on your docket number **2011-271-E**.

I live on a variable income and such an increase in my monthly power bill would present untold problems for me.

I run a lawn care business and have suffered price spikes in gasoline, oil and vehicle maintenance. I find that I am unable to pass 100% of these increases on to my customers; most of them are retired couples who live on Social Security monthly payments and they have received no increases for about three years. I either have to absorb these price increases or lose my customers. Also, food prices and health insurance have escalated since 2009.

I now ask that you not allow this ridiculously high rate increase.

Very truly yours,



Todd Patterson

9 Brendle Drive

Simpsonville, S.C. 29681

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